

According to the present claims, at least one of the substrate, the fluorescent composition and the primer layer comprises a material providing effective adhesion of the fluorescent composition to the substrate or the primer layer so as to prevent formation on an inter-layer boundary of non-fluorescent poly-molecular associates of fluorescent dyes causing quenching of fluorescence. That feature of the present claimed invention facilitates fluorescent reading of the disc, particularly of the multi-layer disc of claims 16 and 18.

By contrast, the applied prior art depends on reflection for reading. Therefore, the applied references do not teach or suggest the above-noted claim limitation and would have provided no motivation for such a limitation. As a result, the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is moot.

Finally, the Applicants respectfully submit that newly added claims 11-18 overcome the problem of overlapping subject matter. Thus, the double-patenting rejection of claims 1-10 over co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/493,267 is moot.

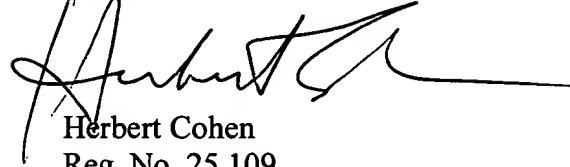
For the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding grounds of rejection are moot. Therefore, withdrawal of all such grounds of rejection and issuance of a Notice of Allowance of claims 11-18 are respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain that can be overcome most easily through a telephone communication, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME COMISKY & McCAULEY LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (109289.00121). If a separate petition for extension of time does not accompany this Amendment or is insufficient to render this Amendment timely, the Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time for

as many months as are required to render this Amendment timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted



Herbert Cohen  
Reg. No. 25,109

BLANK ROME COMISKY & McCAULEY LLP  
The Farragut Building, Suite 1000  
900 – 17<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Receptionist 202-530-7400  
Direct dial 202-530-7420  
Facsimile 202-463-6915